

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 19-21 and 23-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-15 and 24-33 are withdrawn, claims 16, 19, 21 and 23 are amended and claims 17, 18 and 22 are canceled. Claim 16 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 17, 18 and 22, and claims 19-21 and 23 are amended to depend from claim 16. Thus, no new matter is added.

Reconsideration of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 16 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2002-164256 to Togashi; and rejects claims 18-20 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Togashi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 17, 18 and 22 are cancelled and thus, the rejection of these claims is now moot.

Togashi does not disclose a multilayer capacitor that includes dielectric layers, wherein "each of said first to eighth internal conductor layers is formed with only one straight line shaped cut part," as recited in amended independent claim 16. That is, the area of the cut part for reversing the current direction can be minimized so that the decrease of the capacitance can be minimized. Nowhere does Togashi discuss this construction of the dielectric layers.

Further, by configuring the first to eighth internal conductor layers, i.e., "insulated from one another by said dielectric layer and arranged in an order from the first to eighth ones in a dielectric body," as recited in claim 16, currents in reverse directions can be easily made between adjoining internal conductor layers in the stacking direction.

In contrast, Togashi discloses a dielectric assembly arranged as shown in Fig. 1.

Thus, the claimed patterns of the internal electrodes are simpler than that of Togashi.

Further, by configuring the lead parts as recited in claim 16, the claimed multilayer capacitor allows two terminal electrodes to be formed on each of the four side surfaces of the dielectric body. That is, when powering the multilayer capacitor, the polarities of adjoining terminal electrodes become mutually different, alternating the positive and negative electrodes for the currents to flow. As a result, magnetic fluxes generated at the respective lead parts are canceled out by each other by the current flowing in reverse directions in the lead parts, and thus, reducing equivalent serial inductance.

Nowhere does Togashi teach or suggest modifying the disclosed dielectric assembly to have these features of the claimed invention. Thus, the claimed multilayer capacitor is different from and would not have been obvious over Togashi.

Thus, claim 16, and claims 19-21 and 23 dependent therefrom, are patentable over Togashi. Withdrawal and consideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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